

CALIFORNIA GROUND FISH DISASTER STIPEND (GDS) PROJECT Family Status Determination

What constitutes family status? All involved in the groundfish disaster stipend project will use the WIA definition of family status, for example:

- A single qualifying individual with no dependent children may receive up to \$1,000/month
- A married qualifying individual may receive up to \$1,500/month
- A qualifying divorced individual or never married parent with dependent child(ren) living **IN** the home may receive up to \$1,500/month
- A qualifying divorced individual or never married parent with dependent child(ren) living **OUTSIDE** the home may receive up to \$1,000/month
- A married couple with two or more dependent children may **each** receive up to \$1,500/month **IF BOTH** were qualified **AND BOTH** are in non-fishing training, up to a maximum of \$3,000
- A married couple with only one dependent child may receive up to a maximum of \$2,500 **IF BOTH** were qualified **AND BOTH** are in non-fishing training (chose one parent to be a family status of one and the other parent to be a family status of two)
- A married couple living together may **each** receive up to \$1,000/month **IF BOTH** were qualified **AND BOTH** are in non-fishing training

What are the definitions of family, dependent children, and guardian? Refer to the definitions in WIAD01-2, Title I Eligibility, issued 07/25/2001, excerpted here as:

FAMILY—The term *family* means two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or decree of court, who are living in a single residence, and are included in one or more of the following categories:

A husband, wife, and dependent children.

A parent or guardian and dependent children.

A husband and wife.

[Reference: WIA Section 101(15)]

DEPENDENT CHILDREN—*Dependent children shall be defined as individuals, aged 0-21, whose circumstances fall into one of the following categories:*

A. Under the age of 18, who are not emancipated minors (emancipated minor is defined below), and are living in a single residence with their parent(s) or guardian(s).

B. Age 18-19 who are full-time students in a secondary school or equivalent, and are living in single residence with their parent(s) or guardian(s).

C. Age 18-21, who are not full-time students in a secondary school or equivalent, and are living in a single residence with their parent(s) or guardian(s), shall have

their dependency established according to locally established policy and procedures.

If the 18-21 year-old is a dependent family member (e.g., the youth is claimed as a dependent on the parent's income tax), then income is calculated based on wages, salaries, tips, etc. of all family members. If the older youth is determined not to be a dependent family member (e.g., the youth is not claimed as a dependent on the parent's income tax), the older youth's income is based on his or her own wages, salaries, tips, etc.

It is not possible to develop policy that will cover every situation. At some point, common sense, humanity and good case records must compensate for the deficiencies of policies to anticipate every situation.

Include below local policy and procedures for determining the dependency of older youth age 18-21 who are not full-time students in a secondary school or equivalent, and are living in a single residence with their parent(s) or guardian(s).

Local dependency policy and procedures:

GUARDIAN—The term “guardian” includes caregiver relatives. The term applies to situations where an older or younger youth is permanently or indefinitely residing with a family member other than his or her parents or legal guardians.